

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CU, US, IR

SUBJECT: US POLICY TOWARD CUBA

REF: TEHRAN 1067; 1388

1. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO DRAW ON FOLLOWING INFORMATION
IN REPLY TO HATEF.

QUESTIONS OF CUBA'S "EVENTUAL READMISSION TO
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES" AND US POLICY ON
CUBA'S READMISSION ARE NOT RPT NOT ACTIVE AT THIS TIME.
ISSUE WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION IS
WHETHER SANCTIONS IMPOSED AGAINST CUBA BY OAS IN 1964
SHOULD BE REMOVED. HATEF MAY BE CONFUSING TWO MATTERS.

2. WITH REGARD TO CUBAN PARTICIPATION IN OAS, CUBA
WAS EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATION BY DECISION OF EIGHTH
MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
IN JANUARY, 1962. VOTE ON EXCLUSION OF CUBA WAS
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FOURTEEN DASH ONE (CUBA) DASH SIX. SINCE THAT TIME,

CUBA HAS REPEATEDLY STRESSED ITS DISLIKE OF OAS AND ITS CONTEMPT FOR THAT ORGANIZATION; FOR EXAMPLE, CASTRO IN AUGUST, 1974 STATED "WE HAVE SAID CLEARLY THAT WE WILL NOT BECOME MEMBERS OF THE OAS AGAIN BECAUSE THE OAS

HAS BEEN AN INSTRUMENT OF IMPERIALIST DOMINATION IN LATIN AMERICA." CASTRO HAS RATHER ADVOCATED CREATION OF A NEW EXCLUSIVELY LATIN ORGANIZATION TO CONFRONT US.

3. OAS SANCTIONS IMPOSED IN 1964 (FIFTEEN DASH FOUR DASH ZERO) AGAINST CUBA WAS SUBJECT OF QUITO MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN NOVEMBER, 1974. TWELVE COUNTRIES VOTED TO LIFT ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC SANCTIONS (ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, MEXICO, PANAMA, PERU, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, AND VENEZUELA); THREE OPPOSED (CHILE, PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY); AND SIX ABSTAINED (BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, GUATEMALA, HAITI, NICARAGUA, AND US). FOURTEEN VOTES, TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY, ARE REQUIRED TO LIFT SANCTIONS UNDER PROCEDURES OF RIO TREATY SO INITIATIVE TO END SANCTIONS FAILED. US DELEGATE, IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE, STATED: "BUT OUR ABSTENTION SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS A SIGN OF ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT THE US HAS VOTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS OWN PERCEPTION OF THIS QUESTION AT THIS TIME. WE RESPECT THE VIEWS OF THE MAJORITY WHO HAVE VOTED FOR THIS RESOLUTION. WE HAVE NOT VOTED NO AND WE HAVE NOT WORKED AGAINST THE RESOLUTION. WE ALSO RESPECT THE VIEWS OF THOSE WHO ENTERTAIN SUCH SERIOUS RESERVATIONS WITH RESPECT TO CUBA AND WHO THEREFORE HAVE FELT IT NECESSARY TO VOTE AGAINST." CUBAN SANCTIONS QUESTION COULD ARISE AGAIN IN OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING IN WASHINGTON IN APRIL.

4. SECRETARY ADDRESSED QUESTION OF US POLICY TOWARD CUBA IN HIS FEBRUARY 4 PRESS CONFERENCE: "I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT WE ARE EXAMINING OUR POLICY TOWARD CUBA - THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO LOOK AT VARIOUS OF THE MEASURES THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN THE INTER-AMERICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SYSTEM WITH A VIEW TOWARDS SEEING WHAT CAN BE DONE IN OUR CUBAN RELATIONSHIP." INGERSOLL

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